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But the spirit in which the material of this book has been wrought out and presented is far superior to that usually attained. The author has put ancestor-worship, sectionalism and partisanship beneath his feet. His treatment of men and events is realistic. He has striven to know and to depict men as they were. He has not allowed later events to distort his vision of the beginning of things English on this continent. He says that he has not been able to treat the early settlers otherwise than unreverently, as men and women possessed alike of the faults and the excellencies of their age. This, of itself, is a great achievement. One has no difficulty in discovering that Mr. Eggleston admires the qualities of Sandys, of John Smith and Roger Williams, and that he dislikes the Earl of Warwick, Dale, Endicott and Cotton. The strictures upon some of these, and thus upon what they represent, are unusually severe; but at the same time the faults of his favorites are not concealed or slurred over. The highest test of the author's objectivity will come when events in which England was more directly concerned come into view, and when characters like Andros, Edmund Randolph and Hutchinson have to be discussed. It is believed that we have reached a time when a broad and impartial treatment of our early history is possible, and when such treatment in many quarters is actually in demand. The success with which Mr. Eggleston has met this demand constitutes, in the opinion of the reviewer, the highest merit of this installment of his work.

HERBERT L. OSGOOD.

Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies, 1677-1680, preserved in the Public Record Office. Edited by the late W. NOEL SAINSBURY and the Hon. J. W. FORTESCUE. (London: H. M. Stationery Office. 1896. Pp. lvi, 700.)

This is the fifth volume in the series of *Calendars* relating to American colonial history, issued by the British government in recent years. It has an interest, apart from its intrinsic value, in being the last of the *Calendars* the preparation of which had the benefit of the long experience and special knowledge of the late W. Noel Sainsbury. The summary of the contents of the present volume is from the pen of the present editor of the series, Hon J. W. Fortescue.

The *Calendars* make no pretension to being anything more than full indices. As compared with the text of the original documents, they are meagre and unsatisfactory, especially so to students whose attention has been directed to the accumulation of facts relating to the economic condition of the people of the colonies. Such facts are to be found in documents of all kinds, but they are generally of a character to be passed over in preparing a mere synopsis.

In examining this bulky volume, a feeling of regret is aroused that the British government has not published the original documents in full, a vast and costly undertaking, it is true, but one which would have the hearty commendation of the descendants of the English people in all

parts of the globe. Primarily, it would appear that this obligation rested upon the states once forming the thirteen American colonies, but it is an obligation which only a few have recognized. It has never, for instance, been recognized by Virginia, although these *Calendars* show the presence, in the British Public Record Office, of a great collection of documents of the most varied character, throwing a flood of light upon every aspect of her colonial life.

The present volume covers only the brief interval between 1677 and 1680, and yet it would be difficult to decide as to the superiority in importance, as well as in quantity, of matter relating to the history of each colony, which it contains. In all the colonies a spirit of unrest seems to have prevailed, showing itself ready on the slightest provocation to burst out into an active flame. Among the most important documents touching Virginia are the "Grievances of the Counties," drawn up in reply to the inquiries of the English commissioners sent to Jamestown to investigate the causes of the uprising in 1676. Of hardly less interest are the outlines of documents showing the bold and even arrogant spirit of the assemblies at a somewhat later time in opposition to the seizure of their records and to the acceptance of bills formulated in England.

In North Carolina a rebellion on a small scale broke out in 1677, the year following the uprising in Virginia. Baltimore, writing about this time from Maryland, which was then in a state of peace, admitted that very slight causes would produce an insurrection there. In Massachusetts a controversy was in progress over the claims of Mason and Gorges respecting Maine and New Hampshire. In Newfoundland a conflict had been going on between the permanent settlers of that island and the alien fishermen who sought the banks at certain seasons of the year. In Bermuda a minority of the members of the Somers Isle Company had raised a loud protest against the burdens which the majority had imposed upon the planters of the colony.

From all the colonies, whether in the South or in the North, appeals and counter-appeals were coming to the Board of Trade. This was due in some degree to the policy of that body, which had been to interfere directly and constantly in the administration of colonial affairs. The editor of the volume of the *Calendars* under review asserts that this interposition was amply justified by the inability of the people of the colonies to govern themselves, and that whenever the interposition took place, the Board, as a rule, found itself confronted by "dishonesty, shiftiness and prevarication." In only too many instances the petitions of the colonists had to contend with personal ignorance and national selfishness in the Board. Both qualities were certainly very frequently displayed in the relations of that body with Virginia, to name but one colony. A striking illustration is to be found in the vetoes put upon the acts for cessation of tobacco culture passed in the last quarter of the seventeenth century, vetoes which were at the time justified on the ground that the acts tended directly to diminish the revenues of the King. The Acts of Navigation were, there is every reason to think, in spite of the arguments advanced in their

favor, highly detrimental to the interests of all the colonies. A deaf ear was turned to the protests which these acts raised even from bigoted royalists like Sir William Berkeley.

Even the brief synopsis of the colonial *Calendars*, the present volume as much as any preceding it, shows that long after the colonies had grown to great importance in wealth and population the attitude of England was as often the attitude of a master toward a slave as of a mother towards a child, a master too who did not scruple to get as much out of the slave as could be gotten without actually destroying him.

PHILIP ALEXANDER BRUCE.

The Puritan in England and New England. By EZRA HOYT BYINGTON, D. D. With an Introduction by ALEXANDER MCKENZIE, D. D. (Boston : Roberts Brothers. 1896. Pp. xl, 406.)

THE title is too large for the book, which is a compend of the more accessible matter in Puritan history, expressed in the form of detached essays. The whole is written in a very lucid and agreeable style, under the introduction of a distinguished Congregational clergyman. The essays treat of "The Puritan in England," "The Pilgrim and the Puritan : Which?" two thin treatises, "The Early Ministers of New England," "The Family and Social Life of the Puritans," "William Pynchon Gent.," "The Case of Robert Breck," a paper on Brunswick, Me., with a good account of the "Religious Opinions of the Fathers of New England." The latter study shows more historic insight, perhaps, than any other part of the book.

There is a pure or purist spirit, working at all times in all systems of faith, whether Roman, Anglican, Calvinistic or Quaker. When Main-tenon infused the court of Louis XIV. with asceticism, this essence was felt in the wilds of Catholic Canada, as it was relatively in Congregational Boston. The word "Puritan" must be defined historically and more severely. Some writers merge the "bare, intense spiritualism of the Puritan" into the system and life of non-conformists, Independents, moderate Anglicans on the religious and social side, together with the political life of independents, republicans and democrats on another side. Our author is one of those who forget the historic consequences of the outgrowths of the Puritan or non-conforming system in defining the general results of history to be generally Puritan. Where is the line between what is pure and Puritan and what is universal and Catholic? For example, Unitarianism is a theological outgrowth of the Calvinistic system, but it would hardly be called a characteristic part of Puritanism. So politically. Independency beheaded a king and founded republics, but what founded the republics of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland?

Dr. Byington follows these confused lines of Puritan development in England, and, as might be expected, the results are inconsistent, when unfolded in the larger field of America. He admits the germinal force of the Brownist or Separatist doctrines ; "from them have sprung the